What's been going on

After 125 hours and 31 minutes of day and night filibuster, the Senate broke off civil rights "debate" to take a Sunday of rest, then things started all over again on Monday, March 7.

The previous Senate non-stop record was 54 hours and 10 minutes set in 1915 on a bill to purchase German ships in American ports.

Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) predicts that "an effective voting rights bill" will pass, though the vote may be a long time coming.

Meanwhile the House began debate on civil rights legislation approved by its Judiciary committee, including four main points:

(1) Make interference by threats or violence with court ordered school desegregation decrees a federal crime.

(2) Require election officials to preserve their records for two years and permit inspection by the Justice department.

(3) Make it a federal crime to flee across state lines to avoid prosecution for bombing any building or vehicle.

(4) Authorize the government to provide educational facilities for children of military personnel in cities where public schools were closed to avoid integration.

For a full treatment of the current situation on civil rights legislation see page three.

A full scale investigation of all Armed Services manuals got under way via the Manpower Utilization subcommittee of the House Armed Services committee. Congressman Melvin Price (D-Ill.) is chairman of the subcommittee.

The investigation will follow up the controversy over the Air Force Reserve training manual, now withdrawn, which attempted to link com-

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  Daniel E. Taylor
  General Secretary
- GENERAL BOARD OF TEMPERANCE
  100 Maryland Ave.,.N.E.
  Washington 2, D. C.
  Caradine R. Hooton
  General Secretary

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Editor: Roger Burgess

Contributing Editors:

Charles F. Boss, John L. Bryan, Emogene Dunlap, Caradine R. Hooton, Robert Regan, Emerson Smith, Carl Soule, Daniel E. Taylor, A. Dudley Ward, Herman Will

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What's been going on

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munism with Protestant leaders. Other manuals are under fire as well (see *Contact* March 1).

Certain small fundamentalist groups such as the Circuit Riders, incorporated, the International Council of Christian Churches and the American Council of Christian Churches have defended the manual's statements. Leaders of the American Council of Churches are urging the House Un-American Activities committee to investigate the alleged communist infiltration of American religion.

President Eisenhower returned to Washington after a Latin American trip filled with contrasts. Comments and reactions seemed to say that things are warmer in U. S. relations south of the border, but there is still a "show me" attitude. The President's reception in most of countries visited was a real contrast to the shock treatment given Vice-President Nixon two years ago.

In general the anti-U.S. demonstrations were reported as carefully organized affairs, by fringe groups, and not indicative of the spirit of the countries involved.

More scepticism about U.S. motives exists than outright hostility. And it is the natural scepticism of the "little guy" for the "big guy" who may have something up his sleeve.

Negro groups continued the series of demonstrations against segregated seating in lunch rooms throughout southern states. Often the non-violent action became violent.

There was talk of organizing mass boycotts of variety stores that refuse to serve Negroes at their lunch counters. This would open up a whole new front in the controversy, adding the economic factor. It has been estimated that variety stores depend on Negroes for up to half of their sales in many southern cities, but not at the lunch counter.

The boycott talk is a reminder of similar action against bus companies in Montgomery, Ala., four years ago.

In Nashville, Tenn., 14 of 16 Vanderbilt Divinity school faculty members sent a signed protest against the expulsion of Negro student James Lawson, Jr., to Dean Harvie Branscomb, chancelor of Vanderbilt university. Lawson had been accused in the Nashville press of instructing Negroes in passive resistance techniques.

Lawson and 78 students were arrested and jailed in connection with lunch room sit down strike incidents. The charges were disorderly conduct and the breaking of a state law against conspiring to restrain business and commerce.

All 16 of the Divinity school faculty members pooled funds to pay Lawson's $500 bail in cash as further evidence of their support of his sincerety in attempting to make a Christian witness. The other students are also out on bail.

Lawson was expelled on a two and one-half year old rule against student participation in public demonstrations and mob action. The expulsion came not because of the current incident, Dean Branscomb said, but because Lawson would not agree to abide by the rule in the future.

The rule was originally established to help control panty raids and similar incidents on the Vanderbilt campus. In two and one-half years 12 Vanderbilt students have been suspended for breaking the rule. Lawson is the first to be expelled.

Lawson is a former officer of the National Conference of Methodist Youth. He was in his last year at the Divinity school, working toward a B.D. degree.

On the spot coverage of four refugee camps in Italy, under the title, "Where is Abel, Your Brother?" will be featured as a refugee documentary on the NBC TV public affairs series World Wide '60, Saturday, March 19, at 9:30 p.m. E.S.T. Viewers in other time zones should consult local listings.

The 86th Congress will send President Eisenhower some kind of civil rights legislation before adjourning early in July for the nominating conventions. While it is impossible because of the procedural and substantive snarl to predict just where and when the major decisions as to content will be made, many crucial decisions will be made within the next 30 days.

Civil rights and 86th Congress

1959 action

Congress made little progress on new civil rights legislation in 1959. It was not until the early morning hours of the day Congress adjourned, Sept. 15, that any action was taken. In a final effort by Senate leaders to bring some form of civil rights legislation to the floor for action in 1959, a rider was attached to the House-passed Mutual Security Program appropriations bill to extend the life of the Civil Rights commission until Nov. 1961.

As for other civil rights legislation, when Congress adjourned in September a House bill approved by the Judiciary committee was bottled up in the Rules committee and the Senate Judiciary committee had before it a subcommittee-approved bill.

Hearings in 1959 on both sides of Capitol Hill reflected the three-way split in Congressional sentiment on civil rights. Southerners opposed any civil rights legislation while northerners split between "moderate" legislation, as proposed by Senate Majority Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) and the Administration, and "strong" legislation, backed by the liberals in both Houses.

Advocates of "strong" legislation pressed for the so-called "Part III" powers which were struck from the 1957 bill by the Senate after having been approved by the House. The Administration 1957 civil rights bill included provisions which would have empowered the Attorney General to initiate civil suits to safeguard all civil rights. The Administration did not renew its request for "Part III" powers in its 1959 bill.

Major proposals 1959

These were the major legislative proposals that were under consideration in 1959:

The Johnson Bill — S. 499

(1) An anti-bombing provision, barring interstate transportation of explosives and conspiracies to intimidate people with bombs.

(2) Extension of the life of the Civil Rights commission, which was due to expire Nov. 8, 1959.

(3) A grant of subpoena powers to the Justice department in investigations of voting rights cases.

(4) Establishment of a Federal Community Relations Service to assist in the conciliation of disputes over segregation and integration.

The Administration Bill

(1) A provision making interference with a federal court school desegregation order a federal crime.

(2) A bill making it a federal crime to cross state lines to avoid prosecution for bombing a school or church.

(3) Authorization for the Justice department to inspect voting records and requirements for the preservation of the records for three years.

(4) Extension of the Civil Rights commission.

(5) Granting of statutory authority to the President's Committee on

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SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

(continued from page 3)

Government Contracts, which seeks to eliminate discrimination in private employment.

(6) Authorization of technical and financial aid to areas faced with desegregation problems.

(7) Provision of emergency schooling for armed forces children in the event public schools are closed by integration disputes.

Liberal Bills

A bipartisan bloc of liberals in both Houses, including House Judiciary Committee Chairman Emanuel Celler (D-N. Y.) and Senators Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) and Jacob K. Javits (R-N. Y.) sponsored several bills which went beyond the other measures in providing:

(1) Authority for the federal government to develop and enforce, through the courts, school desegregation plans.

(2) Part III powers.

House Bill

In June, a House Judiciary subcommittee approved an amended version of the Celler bill that contained, in essence, the Administration's proposals plus Part III authority. In August, the full House Judiciary committee reported a bill containing the following provisions:

(1) Make it a federal crime to cross state lines to avoid prosecution for bombing a building or vehicle.

(2) Authorize the government to provide educational facilities for children of military personnel where public schools were closed to avoid integration.

(3) Extend the Civil Rights commission.

(4) Require preservation of voting records for two years and permit inspection by the Justice department upon written request.

(5) Make obstruction of court orders for school desegregation a federal crime.

The committee deleted the Part III authority, statutory authority for the President's Committee on Government Contracts, a policy statement describing the 1954 Supreme Court school desegregation decision as "the supreme law of the land" obligating action by state and local governments, and technical and financial aid for desegregating areas.

At the end of the first session of the 86th Congress, the House Judiciary committee-approved bill was

stuck in the Rules committee. Chairman Celler of the Judiciary committee filed a motion to discharge the bill from the Rules committee and the discharge petition reportedly received slightly more than half the necessary 219 signatures by the day Congress adjourned.

Voting rights proposals

Most civil rights proponents believe that the heart of any satisfactory civil rights legislation must be an effective plan for gaining and guaranteeing the vote to members of minority groups.

If the right to vote can be protected, it is argued that other abuses of civil rights will be corrected by the electorate in the free exercise of their right to choose their public officials.

In its Sept. 9, 1959 report, the Commission on Civil Rights said that in 1956 an average of about 25 per cent of the nearly 5 million southern Negroes of voting age were registered, as against 60 per cent of voting age southern whites. The report said this was due to discriminatory application and administration of state registration laws and, in some cases, the absence of registration boards.

The commission recommended five to one that upon receipt by the President of sworn affidavits by nine persons from any political subdivision of the same state that they believed themselves qualified to vote under state law but had been denied the right to register because of race, color, religion or national origin, the President would refer the affidavits to the commission for certification as to validity. If valid, the President would appoint a federal officer or employee "in the area" of the complaints to act as a temporary registrar.

Late in January, 1960, Attorney General Rogers outlined a new Administration "voting referees" plan to guarantee Negro voting rights. The Administration plan would retain the 1957 Act's provisions that, after receiving complaints of voting discrimination, the Justice department would file civil suits against discriminatory officials and sue to restore the plaintiffs to the voting rolls. Under the new proposal, should the court find a "pattern or practice" of discrimination, it would appoint "voting referees" to receive complaints of deprivation of the right to vote. The referees would prepare a list of those complainants qualified to vote, and this list would become part of a court order.

It was generally conceded by civil rights proponents, Republican and Democratic, that the Administration plan would provide stronger and wider enforcement of voting rights in both federal and local elections than the registrar proposal. (The commission proposal covered federal elections only.)

The Hennings proposal

Senate Rules and Administration Committee Chairman Thomas C. Hennings, Jr. (D-Mo.) Feb. 17 submitted to his committee the draft of a compromise bill designed to take the lead on voting rights proposals away from the Administration, solve legal and technical problems in the registrar and referee proposals and mend the split between proponents of the two other approaches.

The Hennings proposal would follow the Administration plan up to the point that the federal court found a "pattern or practice" by state voting officials denying qualified persons the right to vote because of race or color.

Then, instead of providing for referees, the Hennings' plan would authorize the President to establish a "Federal Enrollment office" in the election district for which the court finding was made. The federal enrollment officers would enroll or register all persons *of the race found to have been discriminated against,* following which state officials must permit them to vote and count their votes, or be subject to contempt of court penalties.

Hearings being held

At the present time both the Senate Rules and Administration committee and the House Judiciary committee are conducting hearings on the voting rights proposals.

There seems to be agreement among most civil rights proponents that each of the three proposals have advantages and disadvantages. Several pro-civil rights groups are advising their constituencies to ask their Congressmen to work and vote for a meaningful and workable compromise of the three plans.

The current picture

Senate

As promised in September, 1959, the Senate began debate on civil rights Feb. 15. Since no civil rights bill had been reported by a Senate committee or passed by the House, Senate Majority Leader, Lyndon Johnson, called up a minor, House-passed bill and invited Senators to offer civil rights amendments to it. The first civil rights amendments officially came before the Senate Feb. 17, when Minority Leader Dirksen offered the seven-part Administration civil rights bill as an amendment to the House-passed bill which is serving at the present time as the vehicle for Senate civil rights amendments and debate. The Administration bill is the bill offered last year plus the voting referee proposal.

Other amendments which are expected to be introduced on the floor of the Senate are those making provision for federal technical and financial aid to school districts desegregating their schools, "Part III" authority for the Attorney General, and a policy statement backing up the Supreme Court's 1954 school desegregation decisions *(See page 1 for latest developments.)*

House

The House Rules committee, under pressure from the discharge petition which was said to be only 10 signatures short of the required 219, voted Feb. 18 to send the Judiciary committee-approved civil rights bill to the floor. The rule granted by the committee allotted 15 hours of debate on the bill before amendments could be offered and specifically provided that a voting registrars or referees bill could be added as an amendment. The House floor debate is expected to begin on or about March 10.

It is considered certain that attempts will be made on the floor of the House to add the same strengthening amendments as are expected to be proposed on the floor of the Senate, including financial and technical aid to local school districts attempting to desegregate schools.

Possible action

It is impossible at this time to determine just where and when the critical decisions as to the substance of new civil rights legislation will be made. The parliamentary situation is

complicated, House and Senate leadership have not made known their compromise plans, if such plans exist.

It is not known whether the Senate will complete its action before House debate begins. It is not known whether a conference between the Houses will be necessary and if so how far apart the two Houses will be, and therefore what kind of decisions will be made in conference.

Under the circumstances, national groups favoring strong civil rights legislation are advising their constituencies of the critical importance of the debate. Members are being urged to write their Congressmen asking support for Part III, financial assistance and technical advice to communities desegregating their schools, and a meaningful merger of the registrar-referee-enrollment officers proposals.

When or how these decisions are made is relatively unimportant. Paramount is the fact that the decisions on the strengthening amendments are the crucial ones and support is being urged whenever or wherever these decisions will be made.

Church-community workshop scheduled for Emory

Plans are now being completed for a church and community workshop June 21 to July 7, 1960 at Emory university. This will be the first of a series of workshops dealing with the general theme, "the nature of the church and its social involvements."

This year the focus will be upon the political involvements of the church. Next year it might well be upon the economic involvements. Enquiries may be addressed to Dr. G. Ross Freeman, Director, Emory university Atlanta, Ga. Lecture themes already suggested for the 1960 workshop are the nature and involvement of the Protestant church in contemporary society, the nature and involvement of the Roman Catholic church in contemporary society, the nature and involvement of Judaism in contemporary society. These lectures are to be given by the three faiths. The scientific approach to this theme is to be given by a prominent sociologist.

Further lectures will deal with problems of political involvement from the point of view of the church, the political scientist, the local church pastor and the individual church member. Interested persons should reserve the dates of June 21 to July 7 for possible attendance.

Crime costs are rising rapidly

The annual cost of crime in America, according to FBI leaders, has risen now to over $22 billion annually or $506 for every family in the United States.

More money is spent combatting crime in America than is spent in operating all of our churches and synagogues.

Last year there were over 1,553,-922 serious crimes committed in our country.

Teenagers included

Even more shocking is the fact that during 1958, persons under 18 years of age accounted for 50 percent of the burglary arrests, 48 percent of the larceny arrests and over 18 per cent of arrests for forcible rape.

According to the timetable of crime compiled from statistics sent to the FBI headquarters in Washington a burglary was committed every 46.4 seconds last year. We had a robbery every seven minutes. Each 1.3 minutes there was a larceny involving more than $50. A forcible rape occurred each 36 minutes; an aggravated assult every 4.6 minutes and a car was stolen each 1.9 seconds somewhere in the United States.

Challenge to church

Serious crime grows even faster than the poulation in our country. What does the Christian church and local church commissions on Christian Social Relations have to say on how we can effectively combat this insidious growth?

National Council speaks on child labor in agriculture

Churches have been at the forefront of almost all action for child labor legislation during the past 50 years. Good laws have been passed, but generally they have not been applied to agriculture. Often children work for pay in the fields. Sometimes schools are recessed to allow for heavy crop periods.

Agriculture has become the second most dangerous industry in the country. And the incidence of accidents among children is rising.

In some cases the practice of allowing school vacations for crop picking has deprived youngsters of educational benefits and had a depressing effect on agricultural wages and conditions generally.

The resolution which the National Council of Churches has passed is aimed at these commercial conditions, not at the casual labor by children on family farms. The resolution was adopted by the General Board of the NCC on Feb. 25, 1960.

Resolution on child labor, particularly child workers in agriculture

Whereas, the churches over the years have worked for the aboltion of child labor and have sought adequate provision for the protection, education, spiritual nurture and wholesome recreation of every child, and

Whereas, these protections are still not fully achieved in our society and in some places existing protections are evaded, particularly as they relate to the children from migrant families or in the commercial agricultural forces, and

Whereas, exemptions in current legislation relating to the employment of children in the harvesting of our crops and other farm employment lead not only to serious impairment of their opportunities for education but also to their exposure to the increasing work hazards of mechanized agriculture.

Therefore, be it resolved that, the National Council of Churches hereby reaffirms the traditional principle of the churches in opposition to child labor and in support of adequate provision, public and private, in federal and state legislation, and in local initiative, for the protection, education, spiritual nurture and wholesome recreation of every child, and

Be it further resolved, that we urge removal of exemptions in current legislation, state or federal, which exclude child workers in agriculture from the protections now accorded to children with regard to employment in other industries, with appropriate exceptions for work on the farm owned or operated by their parents.

Be it further resolved, that the general board authorize representatives of the National Council of Churches to testify at public hearings along the lines indicated above.

Methodists of the Pittsburgh area are deeply involved in an effort to fight county option pari-mutuel betting on harness racing. The issue is set for county referendums in Pennsylvania's April primaries. Conference lay leaders, executive secretaries and Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke are helping carry the issue to the people through the Pennsylvania press. Typical is the statement released by Harold E. Burns, lay leader of the Erie Methodist conference. Mr. Burns is publisher of the *New Wilmington (Pa.) Globe.*

Announcing that the conference board of lay activities had voted unanimously to oppose the betting measure, Burns said:

"We will fight this thing at the polls because it is morally wrong. We will fight it because it represents one more step in the degradation of our state. And we will fight it because gambling saps moral strength and character, leads to personal tragedy and family suffering, lowers public morals and causes even further disrespect for our legislators and our laws."

Mr. Burns took exception to the argument that these social evils were justified because legalized gambling, like legalized liquor sales, would produce additional revenue for the state.

"We were told a long time ago that the revenue from the sale of liquor would greatly enhance our public coffers and thereby reduce our taxes," he said. "However, little is said now, particularly by the liquor interests, as to how much it costs for the rehabilitation of alcoholics, or the treatment in hospitals and insane asylums of a still greater number who are never rehabilitated. I haven't the slightest doubt that the liquor traffic costs the state treasury more than it brings in," Mr. Burns added.

TEMPERANCE

"Concerning alcohol— let's be modern"

Bishop Charles W. Brashares of the Illinois Area recently sent this message to the Methodists of Illinois via their paper, Methodist Action.

Concerning alcohol, let's be modern and drink water. College students from all over the world tell me that the most wonderful thing they find in America is pure drinking water almost everywhere. Some of us do not realize how unique that is.

All of you who have travelled, know how difficult it is to get clean drinking water in most foreign countries. Your hostess has to boil the water and cool it before it is fit to drink and then it has a weird taste and may not seem cool. Thirty years ago we had to pay ninety cents for a glass of drinking water in Jerusalem. That was Bvien water, shipped in from France. The British government was trying to create a system for bringing pure water into Jerusalem at that time. Most people had to drink whatever they could get and that was usually alcoholic.

Of course, those who sell alcohol, want us to use that. These commercial interests do not care what happens to us, providing the profit goes to them. They infer you are hardly civilized if you don't drink liquor.

Recently, I attended a luncheon and dinner given for Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth of England. I would say they were real social events. We guests do not know the cost of the dinner, but we heard it cost somebody, $27 a plate. With each course was served a different kind of wine, unless you signalled you did not want it, as many did. And for the toasts at the end, champagne was poured. The newspaper said that, even when the Queen drank a toast to the President of the United States they could not see that her lips quite touched the glass. That was true of most everybody. As you looked around, you saw the guests were Judges, Superintendents of Schools, Senators, Congressmen, Business leaders, Ministers who could not afford to be anything but their sober best. They did not drink.

Much the same was true at the banquet in honor of His Excellency, the President of Mexico. I saw only one man, as I looked along the head table, who seemed interested in alcohol and that one man was addled before the banquet began. All this is as one might expect among responsible people.

In much of Europe and in South America, soft drinks are coming in and beating out the old fashioned alcoholic beverages. In a few places, soda fountains have been introduced as in England and they are all the rage. Where business enterprise is able to get orange or grape juice into a country, these are popular. In some places, even companies which produced only alcoholics are now canning fruit juices. We in modern America have plenty of non-alcoholic liquid refreshment, so we do not need to run the risks of a splitting headache tomorrow morning or the chance of becoming an addict of alcoholism later on.

Who never takes his first drink will never become one of the victims of alcoholism, making our highways and byways so dangerous. When liquors are served, it is very proper to say, "No, thank you." Many, from Alcoholics Anonymous have learned to say it, and have found a new security. When you and I decide to say "No, thank you" to social drinking, we may help a brother who has thought he had to follow the ancient custom of peoples who do not have good drinking water.

Let's commit ourselves to the modern way. No alcoholics for me.

by *Caradine R. Hooton*

Information from the Director of Safety for the State of Oklahoma indicates (1) a "skyrocketing" of arrests for drunkenness, (2) increased problems in drinking and driving, (3) alarming relapses of former alcoholics, and (4) shocking difficulties of getting convictions for liquor law violations.

A completely new situation necessitates re-education in simple citizenship responsibilities. Because of the tremendous increase in the number of arrests for drinking and driving, lawyers have so frequently "exhausted the entire venire" of potential jurors that prosecutions have been practically nullified. Officials are now disturbed that this indisposition on the part of people to convict for intoxication while driving will undermine all respect for law and authority in the state of Oklahoma. This is indeed a new area of moral concerns which will require a revival interest in the performance of simple duties without which democracy itself cannot survive.

Anent the oft-propounded question, "Will prohibition return during the foreseeable future?" many feel that the nation is rapidly developing a promising antipathy for repeal.

The late Rev. William O'Brien, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic church in East Haven, Conn., and a generous supporter of the National Foundation for Highway Safety, incorporated, stated to the president, William H. Veale, "I want prohibition back again. The worst under prohibition is better than the best under repeal. The taverns in our parish are undoing the work of our Priests and Sisters. . . ."

Let us hope that the stepped-up marketing program of the liquor industry will spark a timely movement for whatever local, state, and national controls the people may find to be necessary as effective curbs for liquor now on the loose.

Church-wide mission study will discuss problems of alcohol

Here's another "first" for Methodism. The 1960-61 Church-Wide Mission Study, sponsored annually by the General Board of Missions, will center on a search for solutions to alcohol problems.

Part of the interdenominational missions theme, "Heritage and Horizons," the study will explore the mission of the Church to alcoholics, drinking drivers, and Christian responsibility for finding solutions for the many other problems which relate to our social drinking culture.

Every local church of Methodism will be asked to conduct the study as a cooperative project among its Commissions. Primary responsibility will rest with the local church Commission on Missions with support from the Commissions on Education, Evangelism and Christian Social Relations. Organizations of the church will participate also, including Methodist Men's clubs, the Woman's Society of Christian Service and the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

The study book is titled *Stumbling Block* and was written by Dr. Douglas Jackson, professor of sociology of religion, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist university. The leader's guide has been prepared by Dr. J. Irvin McDonough, of the department of leadership education, General Board of Education. A youth study guide is also being written.

The Basic Resources may be ordered from Study Book Office, Rm. 1307, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, N. Y.

The Additional Resources are available from The General Board of Temperance, 100 Maryland Avenue, N. E., Washington 2, D. C.

Basic resources

Stumbling Block by Douglas Jackson
This is the basic study book. Copies will be 75 cents each.

A Leader's Guide for Stumbling Block by J. Irvin McDonough
This is the adult leader's guide and contains complete suggestions for leading the study. 35 cents per copy.

Youth Study Guide for Stumbling Block by Emogene Dunlap
A special youth study guide for use by the Methodist Youth Fellowship and as a continuing non credit course. 25 cents per copy.

Additional resources

Filmstrip Library on Alcohol Problems
A set of four "Basic Information" filmstrips provided for use in the study and as a permanent addition to the local church audio visual library.
Alcohol and the Human Body
Alcohol and Personality
Alcohol and Social Problems
Alcohol and the Christian Faith
The filmstrips are 35 mm., black and white, with 33⅓ rpm record, 55 to 75 frames each. A leader's guide for discussion accompanies each filmstrip. Cost: $6 each $20 per set of four.

Citizens Solve Problems Turnover Chart
A 32-page table-top turnover chart providing basic information an alcohol and alcohol problems for group discussion. A leader's guide accompanies each chart. Permanent addition to church school library of teaching aids. Cost: $9 each (price tentative)

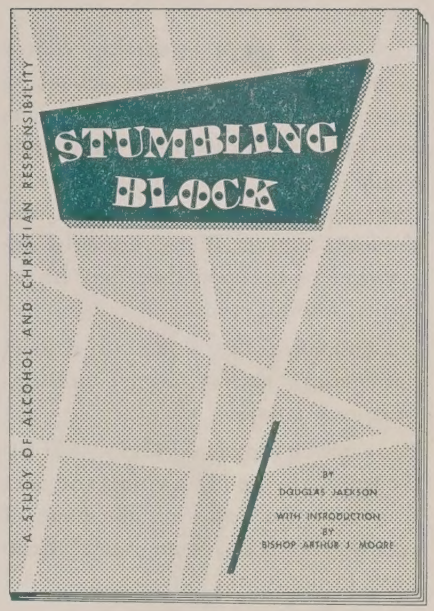
Mission Study Alcohol Packet
A selection of printed leaflets and pamphlets designed as a supplement to the study book and for general distribution as follow-up for the course. Cost: 50 cents per packet

Blueprints for Temperance Action
A set of four pamphlets containing specific suggestions for local church action, following the study course. The pamphlets deal with education, commitment, rehabilitation and legislation and community action.
Cost: 75 cents per set

In the local church

Primary responsibility for the study will rest with the local church Commission on Missions. But the Commission on Christian Social Relations can assist the Missions Commission and the Commission on Education in arranging for the study, selecting leadership, providing resources and promotion. Here is a check list of possibilities for the Commission on Christian Social Relations:

___ talk with the chairman of the Commission on Missions and the pastor about scheduling the study for the fall or winter of 1960-61.



___ help in the selection of a teacher. Key laymen might be available, doctors, sociologists, persons with special skill in the alcohol problems field. Perhaps the district director of temperance or the conference board of temperance members or chairmen might be qualified to teach the course.

___ encourage the sending of your selected teacher to one of the leadership enterprises where the course will be taught. These will be sponsored by conference and district Boards of Missions and Temperance.

___ help in the selection and ordering of audio-visual and printed resources. Remember that the filmstrips and turnover chart will be useful as lasting additions to your church library long after the study is over. They are good investments.

___ help promote the study to make it truly church-wide. The largest possible attendance should be sought. Use posters, direct mail, bulletin announcements, brief talks from the pulpit. Coordinate all publicity with the Commission on Missions.

On the district level

The district directors of temperance or Christian Social Relations, missions and education can work together to give triple promotion to the study. Here are some suggestions:

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___ arrange for a leadership course to be taught at a district school of missions or Christian Social Relations seminar. Resources will be made available on a loan-sale basis to all those teaching such a course beyond the local church. If the resources are not sold on-the-spot, they may be returned for full credit.

___ announce the study in district publications and at district meetings whenever possible.

___ arrange a special promotional letter signed by both directors and sent to each pastor and each chairman of missions and Christian Social Relations in the local church.

___ offer to teach the course in a special training session, or to teach it in local churches where leadership is needed.

On the conference level

___ make a special announcement of the study in the annual conference report for temperance.

___ arrange for several persons to get training at leadership schools as preparation for teaching the course in local churches.

___ cooperate with the Board of Missions chairman, to present a copy of the study book to the Bishop at annual conference session.

___ arrange for the previewing of the new audio visuals (filmstrips and turnover chart) at the annual conference session. Conference TRAFCO might help.

___ prepare a joint mailing from the two boards to each local church that the study be carried out.

___ consult with the conference Board of Education executive secretary to include a course in the Board of Education leadership training school, to train local church teachers for the study.

___ plan to attend a regional briefing conference, or a summer missionary conference for further interpretation.

___ set up a conference or series of district or bi-district schools of alcohol studies in cooperation with the Conference Board of Missions.

Why a *mission* study on *alcohol?*

Bishop Arthur J. Moore
President, Board of Missions

No honest and intelligent person can deny that throughout these United States of America we are face to face with a beverage alcohol problem of incredible magnitude.

Here is an issue with which Methodists have been concerned from the beginning.

Sobriety, abstinence from intoxicants, and a sense of concern for broken hearts and broken homes and broken lives are still marks of a dedicated Methodist.

This problem of alcohol is a world problem. In many lands, as in our own, many of those to whom the gospel comes as a liberating and lifechanging message are among those who suffer directly or indirectly from the effects of the use and sale of alcoholic beverages. The problem has a crucial bearing upon all our mission work at home and overseas.

In the home field, the use and abuse of intoxicating beverages contributes to every difficulty we meet. The five million alcoholics across the land constitute in themselves a vast and demanding area of spiritual need. The added millions of problem drinkers are a challenge to our moral, spiritual, and economic resources, and these millions need our understanding and help.

It is the considered opinion of many of those in places of responsibility for the promotion and administration of our missionary program that this study is not only in proper place, but that it is of basic importance for the whole mission of the church.

It is hoped that Methodists everywhere will find in this excellent and effective approach a call "to solve with skill and grace the problems of intoxicants and to crash this formidable barrier."

Dr. Henry Sprinkle
study book editor

When Dr. Caradine Hooton, general secretary of the Board of Temperance, wrote the editor suggesting that a church-wide mission study be devoted to the alcohol problem, the study book committee of the Board of Missions, Joint Section of Education and Cultivation, reacted at first with the normal query, "Why should we be consulted about this? Our responsibility is missions. This is a Board of Temperance matter."

But as the suggestion was considered, the seriousness of the alcohol problem and its bearing on missionary activities made it seem advisable to consult with the administrative secretaries of the Board of Missions and other leaders in this field.

This was the year for a home missions study. Surprisingly enough, the reaction to the suggestion of a study about alcohol was positively received in The Division of National Missions. Alaska was coming then into statehood. The alcohol problem was reported to pose one of the most serious difficulties to Methodist work in that land, in Hawaii, in Puerto Rico, and indeed in the whole home field.

The Department of Christian Social Relations of the Woman's Division of Christian Service, when consulted, made definite request that a Christian approach to the alcohol problem be made a church-wide study and suggested that if this were done, the book and the church-wide school would be adopted by the Woman's Division as one of their four regular studies.

This is an objective and dispassionate appraisal, from an adult point of view, of alcohol and alcoholism in our day. It is an appeal to common sense and Christian responsibility. It is a study which will help every churchman who reads it face more intelligently and honestly this problem which affects our missions work so importantly at home and abroad.

Significant negotiations begin in Geneva March 15 in the ten-nation disarmament commission set up independently of the United Nations. Ambassador Frederick Eaton heads the U. S. negotiations team. Commentators are already exchanging guesses on the outcome, all the way from Mr. Alsop's pessimistic "one chance in five" to those who express a guarded optimism.

Since the United States does not have any major permanent disarmament agency, we customarily improvise to meet the situation. Preliminary work over several weeks was done by a special committee headed by Attorney Charles A. Coolidge of Boston, whose report was unfairly dubbed "the mouse," since its findings must be regarded in terms of the shortness of available time and the small budget and staff.

At least five governmental agencies are seriously concerned with disarmament and are currently at work in quite independent fashion on American proposals. Whatever plans emerge must be highly satisfactory to all of these.

In short, America, a democracy composed of many minorities, is getting ready for the negotiations. Some elements in both the public and government are working hard to insure first steps in arms control. Those who feel disarmament is a false or impractical step are discounting the coming session. Segments of the public and government which oppose disarmament are working to make certain the talks will fail. Out of the alchemy of these political components, the American position will eventuate, with an attendant degree of support or disinterest in advancing our proposals.

The attempt at Geneva to ban further bomb tests, including underground ones, has suffered a serious set-back. This is but

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WORLD PEACE

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tributary to disarmament. Yet a test ban failure would reflect doubly on disarmament negotiations, both in attitude, by chalking up one zero at Geneva, and in fact, by failing to surmount one preliminary aspect.

Test ban failure

The differences between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on testing refer to underground explosions, about which President Eisenhower made the latest major proposal; namely, that tests be banned down to 4.75 seismic points and permitted below that level. The U.S.S.R. wants a universal agreement and complete ending of tests.

Further controversy involved multi-national inspection teams, unimpeded access for inspection, and the number of inspections.

The Soviets talk generally in terms of perhaps ten a year and tend to regard inspection as covert espionage. The United States position concerns unlimited, unhindered inspection by competent teams wherever necessary, even to the extent of hundreds or thousands of spot checks a year.

The second controversy concerns new data on small underground tests and the theoretical possibility of muffled explosions in large holes at least a mile under the earth, perhaps in abandoned salt mines. Smaller explosions in a big hole, large enough to hold all the skyscrapers of a major city, especially if swathed in internal insulation, could be confused with an earthquake, we contend. Russian scientists scorned the new data and only grudgingly would attend to the muffling theory.

American reactions

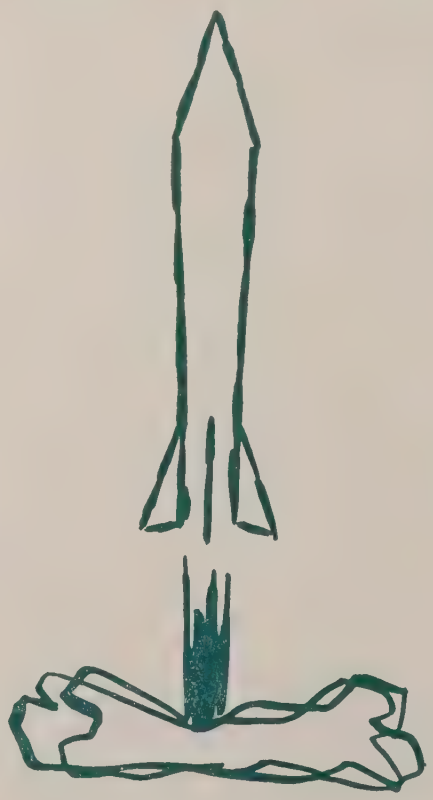
In their turn, the Americans also acted curiously. Our scientists failed to advocate a secondary instrumental seismic system to supplement inspection teams and reduce undetected explosions to a minimal size. The U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey has outlined a far better seismic detection system.

The American group also proposed a separate report which greatly upset the British and other teams, and finally our scientists wound up the conference Dec. 19. The final breakdown quickly followed a leak by AEC spokesmen in this country of our next offer.

Press coverage

Generally, our press has given an unusually poor treatment, or neglect, of this whole matter. It is agreed that the average newspaper gives only from one to ten per cent of international news in comparison to local or regional items. Usually radio and television commentators give but bare outlines of international conferences. Hence, from neither source has it been evident to the people that the American negotiations on the test ban have been awkward and ill-advised.

The attempt to bury the whole matter quickly by blaming it on the stubbornness of the Russians has been too successful. The serious charges that our scientists slanted and altered primary data, and the extremely unhappy expressions of the British delegation toward us have scarcely been hinted at in the press.



Meanwhile, reputable independent journals and newsletters in this country state that the tunnels and other preparations for our next series of underground tests are under way by those agencies determined to continue testing and to block any attempt at a ban.

Science is political

It is becoming apparent that all such subjects as this are finally scientific-political problems. The scientists about to reach conclusions realize that political ramifications are involved. Their findings carry them beyond the announced political positions of their government, or new findings contradict policies. The pressures to use favorable or selected data to rationalize political positions or military postures prove insurmountable.

Objectives in disarmament

Because we are a democracy, the United States enters any diplomatic situation with a group of goals and objectives. We are not shackled to a narrow monolithic simplicity like the totalitarians.

However numerous the secondary aims, there are at least three major objectives sought by any great power — including the United States — in disarmament negotiations. This will prove true of Ambassador Eaton's team representing us in 1960 at Geneva. These three primary aims are:

(1) some honest attempt at the beginnings of disarmament, phased arms limitations or arms control; (2) propaganda disarmament, credentialing us and our cause while maneuvering; (3) workable agreements plus strategic advantage, if pacts fail and aggression occurs.

We assume that these three objectives are both politically and morally compatible and that they mutually reinforce and sustain each other. Both in logic and in life, however, they may be contradictory, paradoxical and morally inconsistent. Or they may partly overlap as valid aids so that one may be obtained at the sacrifice of the others.

A moral analysis of the objectives of diplomacy is the most critical lack in American political life. This the

Church must attempt, lest the task be left undone.

Present U. S. position

Meanwhile, the United States position in the coming general sessions, as forecasted by Secretary Herter before the National Press club recently in Washington, D. C., includes workable agreements to prevent surprise attack, controlled arms limitation and an international military force under law to maintain peace.

The first two proposals have the greater substance. The difficulty in securing necessary support for the continuing work of the United Nations emergency force, and the complete failure of the Soviet bloc to pay anything toward this, makes it clearly improbable that appropriations of the size necessary for an international military structure are forthcoming from any source. Moreover, there is little political realism in the view that any nation will give nuclear weaponry to an international agency. Such are the ways of men that such a powerful military structure, even if internationalized, would itself soon become a serious element of power. At this point there seems as much realism, and as much hope, in getting real disarmament between states as in forging a substitute form of military power.

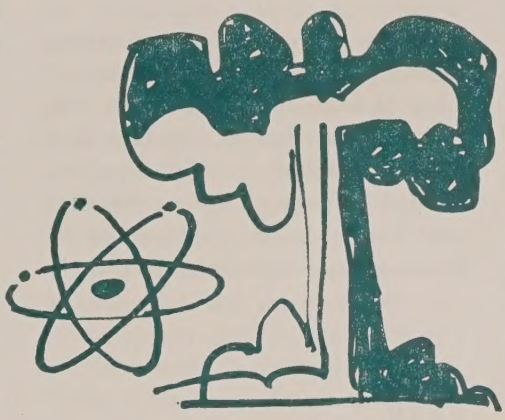
Democracy in action

Nowhere more than in key issues directly affecting our destiny and survival is it necessary for the democratic processes to function effectively.

Those of us who believe that the military structure is overgrown and surpasses the needs of security — moreover, that the escalator arms race is our greatest threat and source of insecurity — wish to see major trends altered in our nation's life and thought.

We would contend that the same amount of time and money be given to continuing disarmament studies, centered in an appropriate agency, as have been given for a decade and a half to military security. Actually since World War II, in no year has our government spent one-one-hundred-thousandth as much on disarmament as on military material. This is the cost of an average home against that of a bar of soap.

National attitudes and trends, stratified through our power elite and governmental structure, are not reversed



without preponderant citizen opinion. To perfect and build such opinion and to make that opinion felt is the only means of reshaping public policy. To this end churchmen are called at this hour. Whether or not we will adequately respond sifts the option upon which life and death for our civilization rests.

Because security and military wisdom are involved, arms control cannot be perfected apart from military counsel. Yet to expect the military establishment to perfect its own diminution and demise is to seek in the life of an institution what is impossible. No movement, no institution, contemplates its own dissolution—indeed, it cannot, and to expect it to do so is sheer irrationality. —DET

Persons and programs

• • • Fairlington Methodist church in Virginia recently released a statement supporting the "Visit the U.S.A." program. Their resolution encourages local churches and church members to support and develop appropriate hospitality programs for visitors from abroad. Their action, which won commendation from various organizations including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has been placed in the Congressional Record.

• • • Much publicity in the midwest attended the fast vigil of Eroseanna Robinson, 35-year-old social worker, who was jailed for refusing to pay income taxes since much of the money goes for military uses. After many days she was taken from the jail to an undisclosed hospital in a state of weakness verging on coma.

• • • Clarence E. Pickett, noted peace leader and executive secretary emeritus of the American Friends Service Committee was appointed honorary consul general of Japan at Philadelphia recently. This is the first time in 18 years that Japan has been so represented.

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The inferences in this article that the United States must bear its share of responsibility for failing to reach a test ban agreement are corroborated by the following recent articles in reputable journals which are suggested to the reader who would pursue this matter further:

Disarmament News—Program for Disarmament, No. 2, Feb. 19.

Geneva Test Ban Negotiations: USSR, UK and US Reports, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Vol. 16, No. 3.

Information Bulletin — Chicago Committee for A Sane Nuclear Policy, Feb. 18.

Gamarekian, Edward "Quarrels Over Underground Testing," *The Nation*, Vol. 19, No. 8.

Orear, Jay, "An Appraisal of the Geneva Talks," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Vol. 16, No. 3.

Rabbinowitch, Eugene, "The Failure at Geneva," *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, Vol. 16, No. 3.

"Surprise Attack," *The New Republic*, Vol. 142, No. 9.

"The News Behind the Headlines," *The Nation*, Vol. 190, No. 8.

Inglis, David R., "A Test Ban Is Still Possible," *The New Republic*, Vol. 142, No. 10.

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• • • Christians in Hiroshima recently developed a statement expressing their peaceful intentions; opposition to war and violence and a request for support for the Christian rehabilitation center for Hiroshima atomic victims.

The group arranged a prayer breakfast for peace and a Christian Peace conference at the Methodist Hiroshima Girls' school, to coincide with the mass meeting of the "Anti-Atom and Anti-Hydrogen Bomb conference" in Hiroshima.

By this means the Christians sought to participate in common interests on peace and to support an annual observance in Japan, which is growing every year in size and influence, as well as in the number of supporting groups. Yet, the Christians by their separate program felt safeguarded from undesired support of strong radical and leftist elements involved in the larger meeting.

• • • Permissible limits of radioactivity in food and water were dropped 60 per cent recently by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This revision may affect certain sources for whole wheat, spinach, pineapple, lettuce and other foods that are already above the new permissible limit in their degree of radioactivity. The effect to the individual will be to set the level of bone radiation to four times background rather than seven times.

• • • The Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ recently conducted a sampling of viewpoints among the denomination membership with reference to the arms race and Christian attitudes on the problem, an official statement of that denomination.

• • • The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, established 50 years ago, is developing a major project entitled "Perspectives on Peace" as its fiftieth year program. Four hundred American experts are engaged in the study. Commentator Roscoe Drummond invites helpful contributions to peace from the general public, which he will turn over to the Carnegie officials. Ideas expressed in 300 words or less should be sent as early this month as possible to Roscoe Drummond, The New York Herald Tribune, 1285 National Press building, Washington, D. C.

• • • We are perennially reminding concerned Christians of the importance of letters to Congressmen, editors, and other makers of policy. That letters to editors should be clear, pointed, and of such brevity that they need not be shortened editorially for printing was demonstrated recently in an unusual way. *Contact* reader Stanley R. Jordan sent a three paragraph letter to the editor of an Ohio daily. Imagine his surprise to see only a center section printed, which gave exactly the opposite point of view than his full letter implied.

• • • An interesting plan for an international institute on Ellis Island is being perfected by an American committee. When developed, a school capable of caring for some 300 students in foreign language and cultural training will result. Americans going overseas can obtain intensive training, up to ten weeks, together with orientation programs.

by *Daniel E. Taylor*

*The security of a nation is a pri*mary and proper function of government. To protect the people, perpetuate the nation, and preserve their way of life constitute basic claims on the state.

There are no single channels and no simple answers to security. Many factors are involved. Within this array it is highly important to know the gravest threat and challenge facing a given generation. What is *"the* enemy" of the nation?

*American policy finds itself con*fronting serious difficulty in preparing to defend against two major enemies.

One "enemy" is thermonuclear war. The other is the communist thrust for world domination. Both cannot have primacy; in the end one must be fended off at all costs. The ambivalence of our policy arises as we oscillate between these two. Failure consistently to center on either vitiates much of our effort.

*A recent spokesman over a nation*al radio network in urging more missile spending contends that the option is "better dead than Red." Yet, there is little evidence the American people would ever go communist. The more they know of it, the less the chance.

*A better option, as put by a mi*nority of the British labor party, is "better slave than dead." As one thinks of Siberian work camps, or Hitlers' ovens, this seems dubious. But when one thinks of the strength of Christians while slaves in Caesar's household there is real merit to this position.

Perhaps a more valid note was struck by John Swomley at Cleveland in saying he "could not push the button for nuclear war." This adduces the basic option as "better dead than yourself a mass murderer of millions." Certainly this is a deeply moral answer from an individual standpoint; but even it fails to deal adequately with some of the sociopolitical aspects.

Thoughtful men could scarcely make a greater contribution than to further refine the problem. The answer must be in moral terms yet not devoid of political realism. What is the primary "enemy"? Which is the most vital option confronting our civilization?

. . . at your service

CALENDAR

Christian social relations events on the national, regional and annual conference level will be listed in the space below.

Suggestions for calendar items may be sent to the CONTACT editor.

March

18-19—"The Outlook in Industrial Relations"; Southern California-Arizona conference; Central Methodist church, Phoenix, Ariz.; and Claremont Methodist church, and Southern California School of Theology, Claremont, Calif.

20—"The Outlook in Industrial Relations"; Southern California-Arizona conference; First Methodist church, San Diego, Calif.

22—Seminar on Social Issues, Pueblo, Colo.

27-April 2—White House Conference on Children and Youth, Washington, D. C.

April

17—Easter Sunday

18-19—"Understanding and Preventing Juvenile Delinquency"; North Mississippi conference; Lake Stephens Methodist camp, Oxford, Miss.

27—General Conference; Denver, Colo.

PAMPHLETS

Public Relations Committee in the Local Church by O. B. Fanning; single copies free from the Commission on Public Relations and Methodist Information, 475 Riverside drive, N. Y. 27, N. Y.; 740 Rush street, Chicago 11, Ill.; Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn.; 100 Maryland avenue, N.E., Washington 2, D. C.

It has been said that "in the framework of religion good public relations can be thought of as doing whatever contributes toward making a church deserve and receive the confidence and cooperation of increasing numbers of people—in still simpler form: making friends for Christ and his Church."

This booklet, published and distributed as a service to ministers and laymen who are interested in improving their local church's public relations, starts in the beginning with "what" (the local church public relations committee) and continues through the "who, why and how"—including a PR check list for individual churches.

Christ and our Freedoms by Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke; order from Cokesbury division of the Methodist Publishing House; $7.50 per 100.

From time to time during this 1956-1960 quadrennium, certain materials have been made available for use by local church leaders in a self-study program. This booklet is a fitting climax to this series of materials and deals with a theme that needs stating and restating: namely, that freedom and its proper use is grounded in the Christian religion.

Bishop Wicke has reminded Methodists that freedom also necessitates responsibility; that freedom can be used to spread aggressive good will; and that freedom will endure only when each of us recognizes the universality of man.

Does the Bible Encourage the Use of Wine? by Rollin H. Walker; order from the Service Department, 100 Maryland avenue, N.E., Washington 2, D.C.; 50 cents per copy.

In these days of high-pressure advertising through the printed, spoken and sometimes sung word, the surveyors of alcoholic beverages are not so insistent about justifying their ways according to Scripture.

This excellent discussion of the Bible and its teaching about the use of alcohol is "creative and constructive"—allowing the reader to say "Of course; that is what I have always believed."

Lenten emphasis Christ and our freedoms

The Lenten Emphasis for 1960 on Christ and our Freedoms will be launched across the church April 4. Copies of Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke's booklet on the subject are being distributed to congregations everywhere. (See review on this page.)

Typical of the emphasis is the program planned for Southern California-Arizona conference which has already begun a five week study of individual responsibility toward the preservation and extension of American freedom.

The subjects under consideration: freedom from racial prejudice; freedom from war and international disorder, freedom from want, freedom

from alcoholism and narcotics, freedom from economic injustice.

Churches of the conference will be seeking answers to such questions as, can the nations have international disarmament without an adequate inspection system? Should the church relinquish care of the aged and dependent children to the government? Can pornography be controlled without violating the fundamental rights of free speech and the press? How can Christians translate U.S. abundance into food for the hungry?

WHaT iS conTacT?

This new, short-deadline service presents a combination of mailings previously provided for leaders in the fields of Christian Social Relations by three World

Service Agencies of The Methodist Church.

It is further evidence of efforts toward co-ordination and economy in the development of a more effective program by these agencies through the Interboard Commission on Christian Social Relations.

The *Contact* service combines the *Courier* newsletter of the Board of World Peace, the *Clipsheet* and *Contact* services of the Board of Temperance and general mailings of the Board of Social and Economic Relations.

It is designed to provide short-deadline news on fast breaking national and international issues, plus depth reporting and analysis from a Christian perspective. *Contact* is mailed twice monthly on a two-day deadline from editorial offices in The Methodist Building in Washington, D. C.

Who shOuLd get conTacT?

Contact's primary audience is the conference and district leaders whose work with the three sponsoring boards necessitates a close "contact" with and knowledge of national and international issues. Its pages also contain specific suggestions for implementing a district and conference program in the Christian Social Relations field. *Contact* also has real value for local church leaders as a supplement to the emphasis on promotion and methods now found in *The Methodist Story* and in the Christian Social Relations section of *The Methodist Woman.*

Contact, 100 Maryland Avenue, N. E., Washington 2, D. C. Use this blank to send subscriptions. Include your own. Enclose a check for $3 for each subscription. Each person will receive *Contact* for one year (24 issues).

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